

NEWS RELEASE

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SBA ADMINISTRATOR COMMENDS SCORE ORGANIZATION'S 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SMALL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON – Aida Alvarez, Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, today congratulated the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) – the agency's counseling and training resource partner -- on 35 years of helping small businesses succeed.

"The SCORE organization and its volunteers have made immense contributions to the small business community and the U.S. economy," SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez said. **"I congratulate the organization on its 35 years of excellent service to millions of aspiring entrepreneurs and look forward to continuing the SBA/SCORE partnership to help small businesses succeed for many years to come."**

SCORE President Emmett Gumm also expressed appreciation to the agency for its support. **"SCORE is especially thankful to the SBA during this important milestone year. SBA's enduring support has enabled SCORE to have a tremendous impact on the small business community nationwide."**

Each year, SCORE's 12,400 volunteers assist approximately 300,000 small businesses with one-to-one counseling, e-mail counseling and business training. The SCORE network includes 389 local chapters that offer more than 5,000, low-cost or free business workshops and seminars each year. SCORE volunteers donate more than one million hours to counseling and training each year.

The SCORE Association was formed in 1964 as a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide. SCORE has assisted nearly four million Americans with small business counseling. For more information about starting or managing a small business, call (800) 634-0245 for the SCORE chapter nearest you or visit the SCORE Web site at **www.score.org**.

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